

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-21 (cancelled).

22. (currently amended) A structural element according to claim ~~24~~ 25, wherein the body segments are made of a closed-cell foam material.

23. (currently amended) A structural element according to either claim ~~22~~ 25 or claim 28, wherein the thermoplastic material is polyethylene-terephthalate (PET) or styrene/acrylonitrile-copolymer (SAN).

24. (currently amended) A structural element according to claim either 24 25 or claim 28, wherein the weld seams comprises melted plastic of the body segments ~~(11)~~.

25 (currently amended) A structural element ~~according to claim 24~~ comprises a block comprising a plurality of body segments of a foamed, thermoplastic material that are arranged next to each other and joined together on a plane, wherein the structural element is made wholly of plastic and the body segments are welded together at abutting side faces forming weld seams, whereby the weld seams form a substantially pore-free intermediate plastic layer in the form of a network of stiffening struts, wherein of the weld seams ~~(12, 13)~~ have a thickness such that a network-like strut structure is formed by

the weld seams which increases the compressive strength of the structural element ~~(10)~~ with respect to surface pressure.

26. (currently amended) A structural element according to claim ~~24~~ 22, wherein the body segments ~~(11)~~ are formed from lengths cut from rod-shaped or column-shaped foam bodies ~~(7)~~.

27. (currently amended) A structural element according to claim 26, wherein the rod-shaped or column-shaped foam bodies ~~(7)~~ are formed by means of extrusion, and the direction of extrusion in the body segments ~~(11)~~ manufactured from the foam bodies ~~(7)~~ lies substantially parallel to a line of intersection of two ~~crossing~~ intersecting weld ~~seam~~ seams ~~(12, 13)~~.

28. (currently amended) A structural element ~~according to claim 27~~ comprises a block comprising a plurality of body segments of a foamed, thermoplastic material that are arranged next to each other and joined together on a plane, wherein the structural element is made wholly of plastic and the body segments are welded together at abutting side faces forming weld seams, whereby the weld seams form a substantially pore-free intermediate plastic layer in the form of a network of stiffening struts, wherein the body segments ~~(11)~~ comprises a stretched polymer structure in a direction of extrusion.

29. (currently amended) A structural element according to either claim 24 25 or claim 28, wherein the body segments ~~(11)~~ have a cross-section which enables the body segments to be fitted together without interruption.

30. (currently amended) A structural element according to either
claim ~~24~~ 25 or claim 28, wherein the body segments ~~(11)~~ have a
polygonal shape.

31. (currently amended) A structural element according to either
claim ~~24~~ 25 or claim 28, wherein the structural element (10) is
a plastic sheet.

32-39 (canceled).